



TONTO NATIONAL FOREST

NEWS UPDATE

Tonto National Forest, 2324 East McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85006 www.fs.usda.gov/Tonto

**For Immediate Release
June 10, 2011**

**Contact: Fire Information Officer
602-525-1042**

Increased Fire restrictions on Tonto National Forest begin June 11, fireworks prohibited at all times

PHOENIX (June 10, 2011) – Drought conditions, hot temperatures and increased fire danger have resulted in increased fire restrictions for the Tonto National Forest beginning at 8 a.m., Saturday, June 11. Most types of fire or fire-causing activities will be prohibited across the Tonto National Forest.

Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or charcoal-burning device is prohibited.

Restrictions also apply to smoking outside of a cleared area, operating internal combustion power tools, using welding equipment or torches with open flames, operating combustion engines without spark-arresting devices in effective working order, or discharging firearms except in taking game in accordance with Arizona hunting laws.

Use of petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns, and heating devices is allowed, and some developed campgrounds are also exempted from these restrictions. These exemptions are limited to **charcoal cooking fires only. (Please see attached list).**

Smoking is prohibited except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammabl

“Because of ongoing drought, dry forest conditions, and exceptionally low relative humidities, fire restrictions are needed to protect forest users, structures and natural resources from the increased potential for dangerous wildland fires,” said Tonto National Forest Fire Staff Officer Clay Templin. “These precautionary measures are intended to enhance our visitors’ quality recreation experiences. Most areas of the Tonto National Forest remain available for recreation activity, including all the Salt River system lakes.”

“We continue to remind the public that all fireworks are prohibited on the forest at all times,” concluded Templin.

Violation of these restrictions is punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 for individuals, \$10,000 for organizations, and imprisonment for up to six months.

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Tonto NF increased fire restrictions in effect June 11, 2011

For more information regarding forest recreation sites and fire restrictions, please contact the Tonto National Forest at (602) 225-5200, or check online at www.fs.usda.gov/Tonto

For general information on fire activity and restrictions in Arizona call toll free 877-864-6985, or visit the. **Southwest Coordination Center website:** <http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc> or <http://www.publiclands.org/firenews/AZ.php>

Useful Websites:

National Incident Information System www.inciweb.org
Southwest Coordination Center: <http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc>
National Interagency Fire Center: www.nifc.gov
National Fire Plan: www.forestsandrangelands.gov
FireWise: www.firewise.org

ARIZONA Websites:

www.azfireinfo.com (fire prevention and restrictions)
www.publiclands.org/firenews/AZ.php (fire restrictions and other public lands information)
www.azsf.az.gov (wildfire information and Firewise)
www.azein.gov (Arizona Emergency Information Network for ALL hazard emergency and disaster information)

Fire Restriction Information: Toll free 1 (877) 864-6985

To report a wildfire, call 1-866-746-6516 or dial 911.

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Campfires limited to charcoal cooking fires only are allowed in fire grills and grates provided by the Forest Service in the following developed recreation sites:

Cave Creek Ranger District

Bartlett Lake Recreation Area

Bartlett Lake Marina
Rattlesnake Cove
Rattlesnake Group
S B Cove
Yellow Cliffs

Lower Verde Recreation Area

Needle Rock Day Use Area

Seven Springs Recreation Area

CCC Campground
Seven Springs Picnic Area
Cave Creek Group Site

Horseshoe Lake Recreation Area

Mesa Ranger District

Saguaro Lake Marina
Saguaro Del Norte
Butcher Jones
Canyon Lake Marina
Acacia
Boulder
Laguna
Palo Verde
Granite Reef
Phon D Sutton
Coons Bluff
Goldfield
Pebble Beach
Blue Point
Sheep's Crossing
Water Users
Larry Forbis Group Site
Pobrecito Boat Staging Area
Tortilla Flat Campground

Tonto Basin Ranger District

Diversion Dam Picnic Site
Vineyard
Frazier
Windy Hill
Cholla
Grapevine
Cottonwood Picnic Site
Schoolhouse Campground
Indian Point Campground
Burnt Corral

Apache Lake Marina Picnic Area